

CALGARY metro



Rescue efforts stalled by fire

Flames break out at collapsed Bangladesh building hours after owner's captured trying to flee **PAGE 4**

Full house

Nearly 60,000 people attended the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo — the maximum capacity for the convention centre **PAGE 5**

FEARLESS — OR FOOLISH?

WITH NO PRIZE TO SPEAK OF, NEW SHOW PANIC BUTTON PITS CONTESTANTS AGAINST WALLS OF FIRE AND PITS FULL OF SPIDERS & RATS **PAGE 9**



STAYIN' ALIVE

Calgary Hitmen Alex Roach and Brooks Macek celebrate Macek's overtime goal to keep the Hitmen alive in the playoff series against the Edmonton Oil Kings. The Hitmen forced Game 7 in Edmonton by winning 4-3 on Sunday evening at the Saddledome. CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

Alberta jail strike to ramp up, union says

Court issues.

'Contingencies' put in place as sheriffs plan to join guards in protest

As Alberta jail staff defied back-to-work court orders and continued lobbying for better working conditions on Sunday, inmates leaving the Calgary Remand Centre beamed about a welcome change of pace with RCMP officers overseeing operations inside.

"They actually listen — they respect you, treat you like a human being," said Roy, who was finishing his latest three-day sentence after being caught repeatedly riding Calgary Transit without paying the proper fare.

Michael, who fell asleep in the middle of the street earlier

this month and spent three weeks at the remand, echoed the sentiment.

"If you didn't want the food they gave you, they took it back and got something else," he said. "They were very nice."

Metro agreed not to reveal the last names of either convict in exchange for their insights two days after Calgary jail staff joined their Edmonton counterparts in a wildcat strike the provincial government quickly moved to have declared illegal.

Tensions initially boiled over up north after two employees at the newly opened Edmonton Remand Centre raised health and safety concerns and were promptly suspended, the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees said.

Worker representatives warned the ante would be upped on Monday as a ma-

jority of 517 Alberta sheriffs were expected to walk off the job, potentially creating issues both at city courthouses and with inmate transportation.

"It's going to be huge," AUPE vice-president Carrie-Lynn Rusznak said, adding, "The government keeps trying to shortcut, it's time to step up to the plate.... These people are tired of having feces and urine tossed at them. They're tired of fearing for their safety."

The province, meanwhile, said many workers were already heading back to work and accused the union of intimidating others considering a similar move.

"They feel safer at the remand than crossing the picket line and that tells you something," Deputy Premier Thomas Lukaszuk said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO, WITH FILES FROM RYAN TUMILTY

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LISE WATIER

City survey

Development permits top list of red tape at city hall

In terms of bureaucratic gridlock, applying for building and development permits remains the most frustrating interaction with city hall, according to a recent survey of Calgarians.

"People are just frustrated with simply the amount of time and the processes that go into it," said Ald. Peter Demong, who chairs the city's Cut Red Tape committee.

The third phase of the initiative received 214 submissions from the public, 22 per cent of which related to building permits — more than any other business area.

That came as no surprise to David Winkler, who co-founded The Area, a unique hub for arts and urban agriculture in Inglewood in 2011, only to see it temporarily shut down this year in part due to permit issues.

"The City of Calgary probably has the largest hurdles for entrepreneurs," he said. "And it's largely due to the bureaucracy at city hall."

Winkler said he hopes the Cut Red Tape initiative will lead to improvements.

As one idea, he suggested having individual permits handled by city employees who actually live in the area under development, so that they can be more familiar with local intricacies and needs.

Results from the third phase of Cut Red Tape will be presented to aldermen this week.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Boston bombings weigh on the Calgary Police Half Marathon

More than 2,000 runners hit the streets on Sunday morning for the 33rd annual Calgary Police Half Marathon and 5K, which this year had a different tone than any before in the wake of the bombings in Boston.

"We took a moment to reflect on those that were involved in the Boston Marathon, and shortly after that we had HAWC (the police helicopter) do a flyover," race

director Guy Slater said.

"The running community really rallied for that," said Al Palombo of Brooklyn, N.Y. "That was such a tragic event. It was just so senseless."

Palombo travelled to Calgary to run with his sister, Vicky, who tackled her first half marathon.

As a mother of two and a business owner, Vicky said the key to her training was dedication and "not a lot of

sleep."

Sunday's half marathon was also the first for 15-year-old Ashley Gammie, who ran with her mom, Rhondha MacLeod, a regular in the race.

Ashley said completing the 21-kilometre course was a goal she was happy to accomplish, although she's not sure about running another one.

"Umm ... maybe," she said.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



Ashley Gammie, 15, and her mother Rhondha MacLeod cross the finish line. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Pow! Calgary Comic Expo fills to capacity with fans

It's the expo Calgary deserves... But not the one it needs right now — it's just too small



ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Attendees

60,000

The number of people who visited this year's Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo was "just shy" of 60,000, according to event organizers.

Nearly 60,000 people attended the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo over the weekend — the most that could legally fit into convention space in and around the BMO Centre.

"If we could do continuous selling, the show would be even bigger," said event director Kandrix Foong. "We have no idea how many people wanted to get tickets but couldn't."

Tickets went on sale on Dec. 1, and sold out three weeks before the event, Foong said.

Among the attendees: Keith Schellenberg and Ron Ross.

"We came last year, and it was awesome," said Schellenberg, decked out in a Batman costume. "We met some really good friends ... so this year we all came together again."

The pair welcomed what appears to be rapid growth in the popularity of comic culture — with one caveat.

"As long as it doesn't change the atmosphere of the event," Schellenberg said. "If it gets mainstream, that's wonderful, but don't change the core of the convention."



Ron Ross, left, and Keith Schellenberg attend the convention on Sunday dressed as The Penguin and Batman. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

1 NEWS

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The Power to Surprise

Owner of collapsed factory caught trying to flee Bangladesh

Garment plant tragedy. Fugitive businessman captured in border town; meanwhile rescue efforts halted after fire breaks out in rubble

The fugitive owner of an illegally constructed building that collapsed and killed at least 377 people was captured by commandos as he tried to flee into India.

At the disaster site, meanwhile, fire broke out in the rubble and forced authorities to suspend the search for survivors temporarily.

Mohammed Sohel Rana was arrested on Sunday in the western border town of Benapole, said Jahangir Kabir Nanak, junior minister for local government.

Rana was brought back by helicopter to the capital of Dhaka where he faces charges of negligence. Rana's capture was announced by loudspeaker

at the disaster site, drawing cheers and applause from those awaiting the outcome of a continuing search-and-rescue operation for survivors of Wednesday's collapse.

Many of those killed worked at clothing factories in the building, known as the Rana Plaza. The collapse was the deadliest disaster to hit the garment industry in Bangladesh that is worth \$20 billion annually, supplies global retailers and is a mainstay of the economy.

The fire that broke out late Sunday night sent smoke pouring from the piles of shattered concrete and halted some of the rescue efforts — including a bid to free a woman who was found trapped in the rubble.

The blaze was caused by sparks as rescuers tried to cut through a steel rod to reach the woman, said a volunteer, Syed Al-Amin Roman. At least three rescuers were injured in the fire, he said. It forced them to retreat while firefighters frantically hosed down the flames. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Relatives of missing workers in a building that collapsed on Wednesday hold pictures of their family members in Savar, near Dhaka, Bangladesh, on Sunday. KEVIN FRAYER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In the Playroom: Kids re-enacting tragic stories



In one of Jonathan Hobin's newest provocative photographs, GOT HIM!, a marine with a toy gun shoots Osama bin Laden in a messy ketchup-blood scene beside a kitchen fridge. JONATHAN HOBIN, HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

For Picasso's masterpiece Guernica, it was the German bombing of a Spanish town. For Ottawa art photographer Jonathan Hobin's Twins, it was 9/11.

Current events have always inspired art, and Hobin's latest instalment in his controversial series In the Playroom is an arresting modern example.

Each of his photos depicts children at play re-enacting tragic public events.

Hobin, 33, has portrayed familiar stories, such as a Halloween-inspired Abu Gh-

raib prison scene, a portrait of the late North Korean dictator Kim Jong-il and JonBenét Ramsey dressed in a pageant gown, among others.

He says the child models in his photographs are unpaid volunteers, and are either the children of friends and family, or models from agencies.

"I definitely would never have photographed a child unless I fully communicated what I was going to do," he said in an interview.

Parents "had to believe in what I was doing if I was going to photograph their

child."

The idea for the series came after Hobin witnessed the repeated and unforgettable images of the planes striking the World Trade Center towers on 9/11.

"I started to think: 'I'm an adult and I can kind of handle what that means,'" he said.

"But with someone who is not as equipped as I am with problem-solving or just life experiences, how are they going to see that sort of thing? How are they going to comprehend what that means?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Processing violence

Asked if he would depict the recent Boston Marathon bombings, Hobin said such events need time to play out in the culture before he can consider reflecting the stories visually.

- "It took probably about six or seven years before I did the 9/11 attacks. You kind of let the dust settle and see how it plays out," he said.

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Bank of Canada

Delay casts air of suspense over governor pick

With the announcement due in days, the overwhelming odds remain that second-in-command Tiff Macklem will be appointed the next governor of the Bank of Canada. Yet the nearer the date

approaches to Mark Carney's June 1 departure for London, questions are being asked about what is taking Finance Minister Jim Flaherty so long to confirm what markets and economists have long considered a near slam dunk.

It's been a full five months since Flaherty has known his first appointee to the central bank was taking his leave early. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

British Columbia

Multiple fatalities after horrific crash

Five people are dead following what B.C. Mounties say is possibly the worst car crash witnessed in over 20 years.

Police say the crash occurred at an intersection not far from the U.S. border Sunday morning. Sgt. Dale Carr said it ap-

pears a Dodge Caravan sped through a red light at the intersection and then crashed into a mid-sized car.

"[The Dodge Caravan] has such high velocity, it goes through the intersection, it comes to rest about 200 metres west of that intersection," he said. "There's again, so much velocity involved in the crash that the mid-sized import vehicle was torn in half." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Who's the space cadet on the new \$5 bill?

Funny money. Dextre, Canada's extraterrestrial robotic go-to guy, rockets to fame on plastic notes — leaving focus groups scratching their heads

The Bank of Canada is set to unveil its latest plastic bank notes this week — but documents show some people found one of the new bills too “cartoonish” and the other too old-fashioned.

Focus groups consulted about the proposed images for the new bank note series thought the space motif of the new \$5 bill looked childish.

“There is a perception that the note looks ‘cartoonish’ or too child-like,” says a 2009 report commissioned by the bank from The Strategic Counsel, obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

Others were left scratch-



The Canadian Space Agency's robotic handyman, known as Dextre, ferries cargo from the Kounotori2 cargo ship to the International Space Station in this February 2011 file photo. Dextre will be featured on one of the Bank of Canada's new plastic notes. NASA/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

ing their heads over the depiction of Dextre, a Canadian robotic handyman on board the International Space Station. Some people wrongly assumed Dextre was the name of an astronaut shown on the bill, while others had no clue who the name referred to.

“Dextre is not recognized — although once explained, it is accepted as an element of

Canada's contribution to space technology that should be kept,” the report says.

“The image of the space station is not recognized. It is confused with a concept drawing.”

But if some people were stumped by the space-age technology on the \$5 bill, others complained the train on the new \$10s looked too quaint.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trade

U.S. border fee not going to happen, congressman says



A truck carries vehicles to the U.S. over the Peace Bridge crossing in Buffalo, N.Y. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

A U.S. congressman says Canadians should not be overly concerned about a proposed border crossing fee, saying it just isn't going to happen. Democratic representative Brian Higgins, from Buffalo, N.Y., told CTV's Question Period on Sunday that he has a lot of allies in the U.S. Congress who will stop any legislation that includes a fee.

Higgins, a member of the Homeland security committee, has been a vocal critic of a proposed study on a border fee since it was spotted last week buried in the department's 2014 budget. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Climate change. EPA reduces estimate of methane leaks during natural gas production

The Environmental Protection Agency in the U.S. has dramatically lowered its estimate of how much of a potent heat-trapping gas leaks during natural gas production, in a shift with major implications for a debate that has divided environmentalists: Does the recent boom in fracking help or hurt the fight against climate change?

Oil and gas drilling companies had pushed for the change, but there have been differing scientific estimates of the amount of methane that leaks

from wells, pipelines and other facilities during production and delivery. Methane is the main component of natural gas.

The new EPA data is “kind of an earthquake” in the debate over drilling, said Michael Shellenberger, the president of the Breakthrough Institute, an environmental group based in Oakland, Calif. “This is great news for anybody concerned about the climate and strong proof that existing technologies can be deployed to reduce methane leaks.” THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Oil workers drill near Medicine Lodge, Kan., in this Feb. 2012 file photo, using a technique known as hydraulic fracturing or fracking to coax out oil and gas. Natural gas production has boomed in recent years, because fracking has enabled drilling in previously untapped areas. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Beef industry to propose using irradiation

Steaks are displayed at a grocery store in this file photo. Canada's beef industry is about to ask the federal government to approve the use of irradiation in meat-processing plants to kill E. coli bacteria in a full range of meat products. Irradiation involves bombarding meat with radiant energy similar to X-rays.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE



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LESLEY SCORGIE
For Metro

Does it seem like each time you unpack a moving box you hear “cha-ching” in the back-ground.

Not only are you on the hook for paying a mortgage, you have undoubtedly realized you have one-time “set-up” expenses. A simple trip to Walmart for cleaning supplies or the first grocery shopping trip for your new place can cost hundreds of dollars.

But don't fret. New homeowners typically find their expenses level out within 12 months of taking possession.

Try to prepare yourself by creating a budget to manage your first-year cash flow. In the budget, identify critical items that must be purchased in your first month, like furnace filters, new locks, garbage bags, paper

Maintenance fund

- Regular home maintenance will protect homeowners from many unwanted issues like mould or premature furnace replacement. Most experts recommend that homeowners spend between one and three per cent of the value of their home on maintenance each year. Consider setting aside money in a maintenance fund.

towels, and vacuums.

Seasonal items can be purchased over the course of 12 months, like snow shovels, sidewalk salt, window washing squeegees, lawn mowers, flower planters, hoses, brooms, tools, and more.

Many new homeowners feel the need to furnish and decorate immediately, but take your time to search for



Seasonal items like lawn mowers can be bought over the course of a year to balance out a budget when moving into a home. JUPITERIMAGES/COMSTOCK/THINKSTOCK

deals. Not rushing to purchase a must-have sofa could save you hundreds by waiting for a sale.

As with most things in life, buying higher quality items typically pays off. So try to purchase quality used appliances, furniture, and home-

care products through Kijiji, Craigslist or local consignment shops.

Some first-year expenses can surprise new homeowners. Regular maintenance bills for heating and cooling systems or hiring a plumber to fix a leaky tap can run up-

wards of \$300. Tree pruning and roof maintenance can cost thousands. Emergencies are even more expensive.

To avoid racking up your credit card, do your best to plan for known expenses and set aside money every month for the unexpected ones.

Rest assured your cash flow will settle since you aren't going to need to purchase a new lawn mower every year. And if you are feeling bogged down by all the expenses, remember that home ownership is empowering and allows you to build equity in an asset.

Repairs. Frugal ways to fix up your home

Does your new place need a pick-me-up?

Perhaps the appliances, paint or lighting aren't suited to your tastes. Or maybe you plan to live there for a short time and only want to upgrade the bare essentials. Whatever your situation, there are plenty of frugal home improvements that will add value to your new digs.

Before you take a sledgehammer to your dilapidated 50-year-old garage, step back and make a list of the repairs or replacements you want to make to your home. It helps to consult your home inspection report since it lists what needs attention and how critical the item is.

Next, prioritize the items — hint, furnace repairs are essential in Canada and should take precedence over installing a built-in Ping-Pong table.

Then investigate the costs

of each item.

If you are like most new homeowners, your list of improvements adds up to be something quite substantial.

So stick to a budget and work through your list over the course of a few years.

Kick off your improvements with 50 to 100 hours of thorough cleaning — cabinets, drapes, floors, walls,

closets, knobs, handles and more. This action is free and will allow you to better determine whether you can repair, rather than re-

place, certain aspects of the home. This can save thousands of dollars.

Move to the highest impact items next. Have your furnace, water heater and air conditioning unit inspected, repaired and cleaned. Upgrade appliances, faucets, refinish cabinets, re-grout tiles, and replace knobs and toilet seats. Reduce clutter by setting up well-designed storage spaces. Update light fixtures, carpets or refinish worn-out hardwood. Hire an electrician and plumber to fix any issues. Paint your walls and furnish your home with appealing

items.

Many affordable home improvements can be completed by you, which saves money. When purchasing supplies, furniture or appliances, check for gently used

Hiring a contractor

- Sometimes home renovations require the services of a contractor. Check that your contractor has a valid licence (issued by the government). Ask for at least three references and view past work the contractor completed. If you are satisfied, review the contractor's contract with your lawyer, paying special attention to terms and conditions. Professional contractor Mike Holmes' website (makeitright.ca) has great suggestions on home renovations.

items on eBay, Craigslist or Kijiji (I bought a new stove, still in its original wrapping, for \$60).

It's easy to add value to your home through sweat equity and affordable upgrades. **LESLEY SCORGIE**





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WRITING THE RULES OF THE ROAD

Calgary is a city of drivers.

This city is most successfully navigated via automobile. It's built for and designed by the motorist. So it's really unsurprising that we've developed a strange car and driving culture. Combine our maverick spirit and our inherent Canadian politeness and you have a unique combination of disregard for common courtesy and traffic law, combined with a demeanour too polite to get too angry about it.

In any given parking lot at any given grocery store, you will find able-bodied humans parked in the fire lane, oblivious to traffic-flow issues, despite the fact that there is an abundance of open parking spaces less than 10 metres away. Still, no one seems to step up to the plate, knock on their window and kindly inquire why they feel so special as to park in a space reserved for through traffic and pedestrians.

Or consider the driver who stays below the speed limit



High Plains Drifter
James Callsen
calgary@metronews.ca

in the far left lane of Deerfoot Trail. Traffic signs worldwide state that slower traffic should keep to the right, yet there they are, oblivious to the growing line of aggravated drivers behind them. Yet when one offers a dirty look when finally passing this driver or (heaven forbid!) a toot of the horn, the passing vehicle is the one considered the menace to the road.

Doesn't it seem like we are in need of a change not only to how we drive but to how we interact with other drivers?

Horns — use them. It doesn't mean you're being a loudmouth. You're using it in a suggestive manner to encourage other drivers to move along and also to check their behaviour. Frequent use of the horn

will hold other drivers responsible. It adds an (albeit small) consequence.

Parking — best if performed between the lines. Always. No exceptions. Ever. Not even to run into the store. We

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don't care how big your car is or how many children you have or how bad your day is. If you can't park your car, don't drive it.

Fastest car goes on the left. Look in your rearview mirror. Is there a massive lineup behind you? Move to the right. Let them pass. We thank you.

Sigh.

Driving doesn't have to be such an uncivilized affair. If we all held ourselves to a higher standard, it wouldn't be a stressful situation. Be vigilant. Be self aware. Be courteous.

And above all else, be safe.

ZOOM

Half military, half citizenry



ILYA PITALEV/2013 SONY WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

Pyongyang crowd picture wins award

"In Pyongyang, half the people I saw were army men, the other half were civilians." These words by Ilya Pitalev are perfectly illustrated by his shot of soldiers and citizens in Kim Il-sung Stadium. Pitalev won the current affairs category at this year's Sony World Photography awards for his images of North Korea. **METRO**

Q and A

A microcosm of North Korea



ILYA PITALEV
Photographer for RIA Novosti news agency, 42, from Moscow

How did you capture this striking juxtaposition?
The shot was taken inside

Kim Il-sung Stadium. When the crowds first caught my eye, I could simply make out a geometric line dividing the people in two. There and then, I didn't think it was some profound or philosophical photograph — above all, it was a good, visual shot. But then after some time, I began to understand that the image

reveals something about the country and its society.

What would you tell the world about North Korea?
That people there have their own celebrations in life and can find happiness. But they exist in a separate world, difficult for understanding from outside the country.

Clickbait

OK, it's time to mix up the 24-hour news updates, sports highlights and celebrity gossip that flood your Twitter feed, and incorporate some nonsensical, but punny accounts that pack their 140-character posts with something to snicker about.



AIMANNESSPHOTOGRAPHY/Flickr

@Pundamentalism:

With puns such as, "Damn girl, you must be an English teacher, because when you're around I'm careful with the use of my colon," and, "If Satan loses his hair, there'll be Hell toupée," and other updates that vary between LQMS and LOL, for example, "Thank-you for calling the Chronic Indecisiveness helpline. Please select one of the following 15 options," there isn't room for the mundane.

@SixthFormPoet:

If you can relate to self-deprecating humour with some intermittent cheesiness spliced into the mix, the Sixth Form Poet is just for you. With gems like, "I'll have what she's having." - Me, watching a woman having a nervous breakdown," and "Never Eat Stolen Wheat." - Moral compass," it's no wonder there is an entire book composed of these jokes.

@GSElevator:

This over-heard-in-the Goldman Sachs' elevator account is a cross between the likely and the too-good-to-be-true. Employees are encouraged to email awkward moments. Here's one glimpse into the lives of the one per cent: "#1: Spent last night pouring champagne, feeding her dessert, & telling stories of my trip to Bhutan. I've never been to Bhutan." No need to envy the proverbial fly on the wall.

Tweets

Don Cherry said the men's locker room is no place for a woman during his weekly Coach's Corner segment on Hockey Night in Canada Saturday night while discussing the controversy around Chicago Blackhawks defenceman Duncan Keith (whose comments to a female reporter have been called sexist).
Naturally, fans took to Twitter to comment. What's your stance? Let @metropicks know.

@therealmcguirkk: don cherry bang on with his comments last night... imagine a male reporter in a female changeroom with naked women..oh the atrocity #feminazi

@Jare_Bear16: Rons face when don says women shouldnt be in the changeroom.. lmao

@mrcanadiantech: Looks like Don Cherry said something again, but I have to agree with him on this one.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

Send us your comments: calgaryletters@metronews.ca

TV Briefs

Two and a Half Men losing cast?

CBS announced on Twitter last Friday that it's bringing Two and a Half Men back next season, but didn't address whether the full cast would return. The series stars Ashton Kutcher, Jon Cryer and Angus T. Jones as Cryer's son. Jones' character is serving in the Army this season and has been somewhat less visible on Two and a Half Men.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Will Angus T. Jones return to Two and a Half Men?

GETTY IMAGES

NBC renews five dramas

Television producer Dick Wolf will be busy next year. NBC said Friday that it has renewed five of its dramas for next season. Two of them — the long-running Law & Order: Special Victims Unit and Chicago Fire — are made by Wolf and his team. Revolution, Parenthood and Grimm were also given the guarantee that they will go on for another year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More Skinnygirl headed our way

Bethenny Frankel plans to expand her Skinnygirl line of wine and spirits and power bars to include more food products. "You'll definitely see Skinnygirl food," the former reality TV star said in a recent interview. "If it's something that I'm passionate about, if it's something that solves a problem for women in particular because that's who I connect with the most, and (it's) any product that I can improve upon or any problem that I can solve, then Skinnygirl will be attached to that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Panic Button premieres Tuesday on Space. HANDOUT

Who's afraid of a big, bad show?

Panic Button. New series pits people against their primal fears — and the only prize is bragging rights

What is your deepest, darkest innermost fear?

Participants come face-to-face with what scares them most in Panic Button, which premieres Tuesday at 10 p.m. ET on Space.

Volunteers are outfitted in red jumpsuits and helmets and invited to wander through a Big-Brother-style house of horrors in an environment that is Saw scary. Besides all manner of psychological terror, including being blindfolded, confined in tight spaces and wading through muck, they also have to endure live snakes, spiders and rats.

It all takes place in what was — appropriately enough — once a slaughterhouse in Toronto's West End.

This too-much-reality series features many slasher film motifs. Stark white rooms

with No Exit stencilled on the wall above the entrance-way give way to darkened, creepy corridors littered with hoses, wires and ankle-deep swill. At one point, players are confined in a standup metal booth the size of a coffin, which is then pushed through a wall of flames.

That's the easy part. Then the critters are unleashed. In some episodes, even Dobermans.

"This is psychotic," says one woman who braved her way to level three.

A disclaimer at the end tells viewers that "No harm was done to any animal" during the course of production. But what about the humans?

Players are given red, lit panic buttons they wear on their suits and can push the second it all gets too intense. The surprise in the pilot is who slaps theirs first and who holds out until the bitter end.

The strength of the series is all in the power of suggestion, says Jonathan Dueck (Destination Fear), one of two producers who gave reporters a walking tour of the creepy set.

Dueck explained that a dis-

embodied voice (sounding like a woman with a slight British accent) gives participants seconds to follow commands. People are blindfolded and stripped of cellphones. Fifty per cent of the participants don't get past the first maze.

Women, reports fellow producer Kevin Healey (Scare Tactics), are more likely to be brave and proceed farther into the maze. Men are generally fraidy cats. "Guys are falling like fall leaves," says Healey.

There is a disturbing kinkiness to some scenes. Women are shown shackled in Plexiglas cages, arms in chains. A smaller Plexiglas box is lowered onto one woman's head. Snakes are then dumped into the box, slithering around her neck and right before her eyes.

Five participants in the first episode, between ages 19 and 31, are reduced to screaming swear machines as they wander about in the darkness. One is a music teacher afraid of snakes, another an amusement ride operator who hates rats.

One man, Kayvon, is a pharmaceutical sales rep described as "an ultra-competitive alpha

Panic prerequisites

Participants are carefully tested and screened; people with heart conditions need not apply. All sign disclaimers the size of phone books. In what might be the scariest news of all, there is no prize money awarded for making it all the way through this chamber of horrors. "People just like to test their limits," says Healey, who sees his show as one big, psychological testing ground. "There are bragging rights to say you confronted your deepest fear and conquered it."

male." He takes the challenge despite being "scared of bunny rabbits." One woman says she is doing this to prove to her young niece that she's "no scaredy cat."

All say they are doing this to overcome fears, but most must leave with vivid new nightmares. This series should be sponsored by an adult diaper company.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bieber and Gomez continue to play up their reconciliation

In what has to be the surest sign yet that Justin Bieber and Selena Gomez have rekindled their romance, the Canadian pop star posted a photo to Instagram over the weekend of himself hunched shirtless over his laptop with a squinty-eyed Gomez cosying up behind him, arms around his midsection.

And the caption he chose

for the revealing photo he shared?

“You’ve been makin’ music for too long, babe. Come cuddle’ — her.”

And there’s further speculation about just how long they’ve been back together, as the picture was taken before Bieber acquired the tiger tattoo on his bicep he debuted last week.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

McGowan is letting her hairstyle go to her head



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

The newly platinum blonde actress Rose McGowan says her look is giving her a toughness she didn’t have before.

“Part of (going blonde) is because I’ve been told (brunettes) look accessible and pleasing to the men in L.A. so as not to scare them. But then I realized I always scare them so f— it — I’m



just going to do whatever I want and I’ve always wanted short platinum blonde hair so screw it....The men in Hollywood aren’t men — they’re guys like (whispers) Judd Apatow.”

McGowan says this last part while making a face to suggest that Apatow doesn’t chop his own wood, and adds, “Real men are hard to come by.”

McGowan is so fierce during our recent interview on the Rooftop Terrace at Gramercy Park Hotel, it

is hard to believe that the whole point in her talking to me is to promote the limited edition rose wine, Apothic Rose.

“I only drink Rosé, isn’t that funny?” she says in a way that makes me feel it isn’t contractually obligated. “I like it ghetto style — I usually pop an ice cube in it to chill it and take the sweetness out of it.”

If you can’t tell by now, McGowan isn’t afraid to let loose on the current battle of the sexes in Hollywood.

“It’s all frat guys; they condone sexism. The execs and the agents. They are people who went to law school and it wasn’t sexy enough ... It’s not like they want to be a part of great film making or anything,” she said.



Martha Stewart

Martha Stewart finds online dating to be half baked

Martha Stewart once turned to online dating site Match.com to help her find a boyfriend — but she couldn’t go through with it.

“I started laughing halfway down the page,” she tells Matt Lauer in an interview. “It was, like, impossible.”

But Stewart insists, at least, that if she does go through with an online dating profile, she wouldn’t hide her identity.

“I want to do my real thing,” she says.



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Book

Drunk Mom tells painful story

As the mother of a newborn, Jowita Bydlowska justified her drinking as research for a novel about alcoholism. The final result? A memoir about her own struggles with addiction.

Drunk Mom (Random House, \$22.95) is an agoniz-

ing catalogue of Bydlowska's drunken parenting failures, filled with excruciating details like the fact that she kept a secret stash of bottles in her son's sock drawer.

"I'm told that I have a dark sense of humour," says Bydlowska. "I don't know if I did it consciously, but you need a bit of relief."

She also writes with piercing honesty about using Google to determine

if her breast milk was safe to drink, hiding bottles of vodka in her son's stroller and fighting with her partner, author and newspaper columnist Russell Smith.

After three and a half years of sobriety, Bydlowska had a drink at a friend's wedding in Warsaw before she knew she was pregnant.

She relapsed into full-blown alcoholism with a glass of champagne follow-

ing the birth of her son.

She does wonder about what her son will think when he reads the book. "I certainly have this idea of him being a 13- or 14-year-old and throwing it at the wall," she says.

"My hope is that he'll read it with an open mind and an open heart. It's a memoir, but it's also a form of (making) amends."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Exclusively online

Follow along with the comedic (mis)adventures of mommyhood online with Reasons Mommy Drinks at metronews.ca/voices



What to expect when you're expecting after the age of 35

Pregnancy.

Dr. Glade Curtis is a national authority on pregnancy. Now he turns his knowledge to the mid-30s set

NATALIE SHURE

Metro World News in New York City

As author of 18 books on women's and baby's health, Dr. Glade Curtis is a national authority on pregnancy.

A newly revised edition of Your Pregnancy: After 35 is the latest addition to the authoritative Your Pregnancy: Week by Week series, co-authored by consumer and family studies expert Judith Schuler.

The updates are geared toward an ever-increasing proportion of women who choose to have children in their mid-30s and beyond.

What did you consider when updating this book?

I think it's critical, when people

want information about their health and pregnancy, that the information is up-to-date. I looked at every part of it to add new information, including how the science has changed. I think one of the more exciting areas for this population of pregnant women is the things we're learning about genetics and genetic counseling.

What are the best parts about pregnancy at this age?

They're more informed, and they're more aware of potential risks and problems. They have taken good care of themselves — if you compare that to an 18-year-old who wasn't trying to get pregnant, then it becomes clear that we don't need to be scared to death of these pregnancies.

What do women find most useful about this book?

The most important thing is being armed with accurate information so that when they visit their doctors they can ask the appropriate questions. The other thing is reassurance. For any woman and any couple, being pregnant is scary — the



Women who are older than 35 are more aware of the potential risks that come with pregnancy. ISTOCK

book reassures women that these are normal things that are happening.

What are some of the field's most important new medical advances?

One of the most exciting advan-

ces is all that has happened in ultrasound technology. Ultrasound has gotten so good, there are so many things we can do to evaluate the baby and help with the pregnancy.

What should expectant

couples keep in mind during a pregnancy?

I think it's always important to remember to enjoy the miracle of birth. So, make sure you enjoy the excitement, the fun and the miracle of having a baby.



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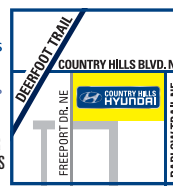
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Live Below the Line challenges people to live under the poverty line for five days, and to buy all the food and drink needed to survive during that time with just \$8.75 a week or roughly \$1.75 a day. Here is a recipe to help you take the challenge.

In the kitchen, below the line

Linguine with Sausage and Mushroom Ragout



This dish costs \$0.64 per person to make. MARTHA WEBER

IZABELA SZYDLO
life@metronews.ca

What do celebrities like Ben Affleck, Hugh Jackman, Canadian actor Ennis Esmer, Osman 'Oz' Bey of CIV's The Listener and Carrie-Lynn Neals of CityTV's Seed have in common with thousands of Canadians and Americans?

They're all taking part in the Live Below the Line challenge, during which participants spend just \$8.75 a week or roughly \$1.75 per day (\$1.50 in the United States) on all daily food and drink from today to May 3.

The \$1.75 per day mark is the Canadian equivalent of the poverty line and the goal of this challenge is to begin a national dialogue to change the way Canadians think about the choices made every day by those living in extreme poverty.

In addition to raising awareness by partaking in the challenge, Canadians are raising funds for four partner organizations: Cuso International, Spread the Net, RESULTS Canada and Raising the Village.

"Living on \$1.75 per day is not about pretending to be poor," says Erin Deviney, Canadian campaign manager of Live Below the Line.

"It's about raising awareness of the difficult choices 1.4 billion people must make to survive each day and supporting partner organizations directly

combating extreme poverty."

Chef John Placko of Modern Culinary Academy, one of Canada's top culinary consultants, and Christina Frantzis, a food stylist and recipe developer, have created recipes to help Canadians with the challenge.

Linguine with Sausage and Mushroom Ragout

1. Fill a medium-sized pot with water and bring to boil. Cook pasta according to package instructions then drain.
2. Add sausage to small pan and break it up while sautéing over medium heat until almost no pink remains.

3. Slice mushroom and add to a pan. Cook over moderate heat until softened.

4. Stir in tomato paste and reserved cooking water into sausage mixture and simmer until reduced by half.

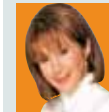
5. Add oregano and spoon sauce over pasta and enjoy.
CHRISTINA FRANTZIS, FOOD STYLIST AND RECIPE DEVELOPER

Ingredients

- 100 g linguine
- 1/2 Italian sausage, casing removed
- 1 white mushroom, halved and sliced
- 1 tbsp tomato paste
- Pinch of dried oregano

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Don't be fooled by some key words when ordering pizza.

Mrs. Vanelli's Roasted vegetable Pesto Pizza (2 slices)

1200 calories/ 66 g fat

Vegetarian doesn't mean healthy. There's garlic spread and pesto, which are oil based, adding to the higher calories and fat. You're consuming three quarters of your daily calories and half your daily fat.



Equivalent

Two slices of Mrs. Vanelli's Roasted Vegetable Pesto Pizza are equal in fat to 11 McCain's Deep 'n' Delicious Three-Cheese Mini Pizzas.



Mrs. Vanelli's Hawaiian Pizza (2 slices)

860 calories/ 26 g fat

If you choose this pizza made with ham and cheese, you will save about 350 calories and 40 gm of fat.



Y we could use some boomer wisdom

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The knowledge gap in the corporate world will widen if retiring baby boomers continue to do little to mentor younger

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It is imperative that Gen Ys recognize the contribution of boomers, and by doing so they will hopefully pave the way for mutual respect. ISTOCK

workers, says Donna Stevenson, a business coach and recruiter who's studied the issue.

Stevenson surveyed 100 senior leaders and human resource managers across the country who told her baby boomers are reluctant to share their workplace expertise.

"This failure to pass on the torch will leave wastelands of organizational know-how as

50 per cent of baby boomers prepare to retire over the next seven years."

Since many senior management positions are held by boomers, and since the next group, known as Generation X (those born in the early '60s to early '80s), is too small to pick up the slack, it will be left to Generation Y (those born after the early '80s to 2000s) to do so.

"I was under the impression Generation Y didn't want to learn and that's not true at all," says Stevenson. "They want to move ahead. What we're pitching is the need for organizations to have a leadership legacy."

Her research also found that less than 25 per cent of companies have succession planning in place.

The whys and the hows

Why are boomers less inclined to help younger workers? Here are four reasons that Stevenson's research identified, as well as how Gen Ys can overcome them and get a boomer boss to share their workplace expertise.

- **Boomers fear not being needed anymore.** Stevenson recommends younger employees use their technology related skills as bait. "Find boomers who are in roles you'd like and offer to help them learn social media skills, even if it's so they can communicate with their grandkids."

- **Boomers lack the time and resources to mentor.** Stevenson says what they're really saying is they don't know how to mentor. As a Gen Y employee trying to overcome this, get involved in a work project that will have a significant influence over the organization. By

participating you're bound to at least pick up pointers from senior staff and perhaps even plant the seed for a mentoring relationship.

- **There's no mentoring motivation within the organization.** Gen Y subordinates should be more flexible in being available for senior leaders, says Burlington-based recruiter Claire Gibson. Try to find projects that you can collaborate on. Again, use your digital skills to turn boomers' heads.

- **There's no one in the organization worth mentoring.** This probably points to organizations that have poor mentoring cultures. Gen Y workers should try to find organizations that foster senior leaders who coach and guide. Ask during the interview process how the organization cultivates its mentors, says Gibson.

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Members of the Calgary Flames line up after their final home game at the Saddledome on April 19. The team will look to put the pieces back together this summer after a tumultuous season with a disappointing finish. DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

Flickering Flames face long road ahead

NHL. Calgary in search of stability, recovery as Miikka Kiprusoff's future remains uncertain

Two days after his Calgary Flames finished out of the post-season for the fourth year in a row, Curtis Glencross summed up what his teammates were thinking on Sunday.

"It's disappointing, obviously," Glencross said as the Flames cleaned out their lockers. "It's too many years in a row that we've missed the playoffs."

Glencross said Flames general manager Jay Feaster and his staff will face a tough task if they hope to put an end to Calgary's streak of playoff futility next season.

Moving on

"Everyone will take their own piece of responsibility for it and move forward."

Forward Mike Cammalleri, who says he was re-acquired from the Montreal Canadiens last season to compete and win in the playoffs.

"They've got a long summer ahead of them," Glencross said. "They'll do what they can."

Forward Alex Tanguay, who missed the final eight games of the season with a knee injury, said he's optimistic that the Flames can ice a competitive squad next year.

"I wouldn't see why this team wouldn't be competitive in the very near future," Tanguay said. "That's my hope for this team and that's what I think is very possible."

One of the main challenges for the Flames might be finding a new starting goalie to replace Miikka Kiprusoff, who wasn't made available for comment on Sunday.

"We'll get a new goaltender in here probably," Glencross said. "He's kind of said he's pretty much done, I think, unless something changes over

the summer here or the next couple weeks."

Glencross referred to Kiprusoff as a world-class goalie and the backbone of the Flames.

"Just talking to him, I don't think he'll be back, but we're all hoping he is," he said. "I think Miikka knows everyone wants him back."

Fellow goalie Joey MacDonald, who the Flames acquired off waivers from the Detroit Red Wings on Feb. 11, said he would love the chance to compete for the starting job in net should Kiprusoff decide to not return.

MacDonald finished the season with an 8-9-1 record. Kiprusoff went 8-14-2, and was rewarded with a one-year contract worth \$925,000 US.

"My focus now is just to be ready and be 100 per cent and give myself the best chance in training camp," said MacDonald, who referred to Kiprusoff as one of the best teammates he's ever had. "If Kipper comes back, then great, but if not I want to have a chance at that No. 1 (job), too."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drawing conclusions

Over the next couple of days, head coach Bob Hartley will meet with management to make final evaluations of the season, players and staff members.

- Looking ahead to next season, Hartley said he would like to see an upgrade to the size and speed in Calgary's lineup.
- "Sometimes it's easier said than done," he said. "One thing we feel very good about is that we have a good core of veterans and they certainly helped us in the last couple of games with all the young players that we have."
- The Flames have three picks in the first round of June's draft, so Hartley realizes that he and his staff will have to remain patient with the young players while continuing to work with the veterans.

NHL

Stars hire Jim Nill to fill GM role

The Dallas Stars have chosen Jim Nill to replace fired general manager Joe Nieuwendyk, a person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Sunday night because the move hadn't been announced.

Dallas fired Nieuwendyk on Sunday after four seasons and no playoff appearances.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Sens beat Bruins, secure 7th seed

Ottawa Senators forward Daniel Alfredsson said he's always wanted to face the Montreal Canadiens in the playoffs.

Or was he just trying to avoid the top-seeded Pittsburgh Penguins?

"We talked about mostly finishing better than last year," Alfredsson said after the Senators beat Boston 4-2 in the NHL's rescheduled regular-season finale on Sunday night to earn the No. 7 seed in the Eastern Conference.

The Islanders will face Pittsburgh in the first round. The Bruins could have won the Northeast Division and earned a No. 2 seed with a win, but they finished fourth in the East and will play Toronto in the first round starting Wednesday in Boston.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Spurs complete sweep of L.A.

Tony Parker scored 23 points, and the San Antonio Spurs completed their first-round sweep of the injury-plagued Los Angeles Lakers with a 103-82 victory in Game 4 on Sunday night.

Tim Duncan had 11 points and six rebounds for the second-seeded Spurs, who will face the winner of Denver's series with Golden State in the second round. They'll get plenty of rest after flattening the Lakers, who finished without three regular starters in their first opening-round exit since 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

It's not like you to be so openly affectionate but someone seems to have fired up your passion. Whatever the reason for the sudden upsurge of loving feelings it's something you should do more often.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

There are so many wonderful aspects operating in your favor now that all things are possible. Wishes you made in the past that came to nothing WILL come true this week.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If you need to give your self-confidence a boost ask a friend what they think of your latest creative project. Most likely they will praise it to the skies and your ego will go through the roof too.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

What a loved one tells you today may be interesting but you would be wise not to take it too seriously. It could be that they have been misled, so check the facts carefully.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You could meet someone interesting today, but only if you make the effort to get out and about. You could also be the beneficiary of a stroke of good fortune you probably don't deserve.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

If you make a few small and apparently insignificant savings now you won't have to make so many major sacrifices later on. As a Virgo you are supposed to be organized.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Tell someone how you feel about them today — provided, of course, your feelings are warm and generous. Don't put it off a moment longer.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You may want to help a colleague who clearly is in need of assistance but if you have already helped them several times in the recent past maybe you should let them suffer. It may be the only way they learn.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You are in an unusually loving mood at the moment and long may it continue. However, don't be so loving that you forget that not everyone shares your natural generosity.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You may be unsure of your abilities but others have faith in you and will go out of their way to show it today. If they ask you to get up in front of an audience be brave and do it.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You seem to be everyone's favorite Aquarius at the moment, but don't let it lull you into a false sense of security. You still have some big issues to deal with and some big rivals to overcome.

Pisces

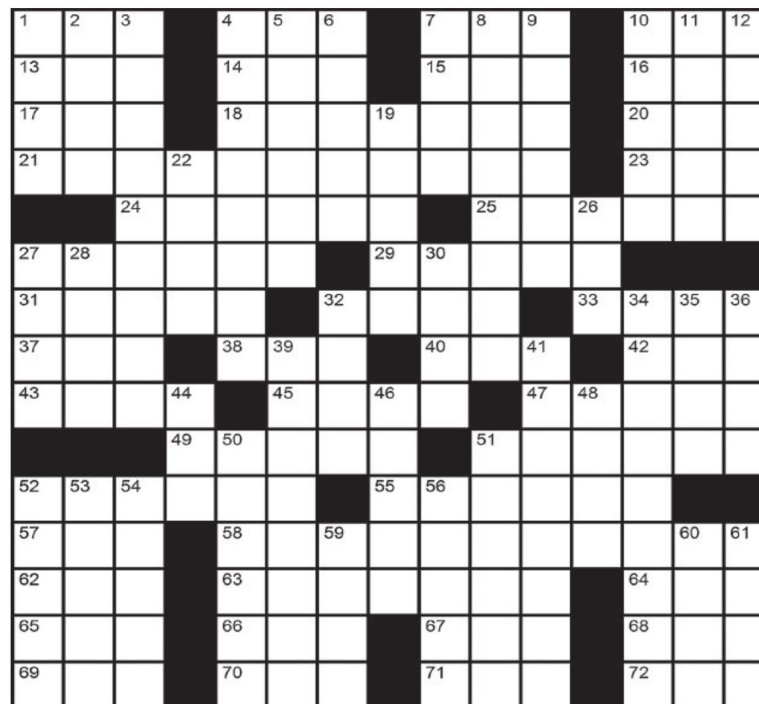
Feb. 20 - March 20

The next few days are going to be very busy indeed, not only in body but in mind as well. New ideas will grab your attention and new opportunities will tempt you to try something different. So try. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

1. Σ Cosmetics
4. Tee-__ (Chuckle)
7. Opera singing style, __ canto
10. Tub
13. Texting point-of-view
14. Crawling plant
15. Iron's partner
16. 'Percent' suffix
17. Wetland
18. __ Triangle
20. Company name abbr.
21. New Brunswick's provincial capital
23. Headed
24. __ Globetrotters
25. Crunchy veggie
27. Canadian actor Henry of ABC's "Revenge"
29. Milk carton size
31. Raccoon-like animal
32. Dean Martin's nickname
33. Twirled
37. Pay-when-received [acronym]
38. House siding material, for short
40. Airport screen abbr.
42. Maritime workers' org.
43. "___ Excited" by The Pointer Sisters
45. Overlook
47. Master of ceremonies



49. Safety __ (Accessibility aids)
51. Bicycle wheel parts
52. Residential area
55. On the beach
57. 'Cond' completer (Excuse)
58. Telemarketing workplaces: 2 wds.
62. Thespian's verb

63. Garden's latticework
64. Little devil
65. Boring routine
66. 'Glycer' suffix
67. 'Mod' suffix
68. Ms. Peebles
69. Barn abode
70. Lettuce variety
71. Some univ. degrees

72. Axl Rose's rock gr.

Down

1. Annoy
2. Actress Ms. Ferrara, for short
3. 1993 Dan Aykroyd comedy in which he reprised his Beldar character from "Saturday Night Live"
4. Offshore oil platform in the Jeanne d'Arc Basin of Newfoundland's Grand Banks
5. The __ Brothers
6. High nest [var. sp.]
7. Boxing match
8. George Clooney, on TV: acr. + wd.
9. More svelte

10. Montreal's Place __ Marie
11. Adjust
12. Toy bear
19. Old Rome's 1951
22. Dash
26. WKRP employee
27. Gladiator's 301
28. Move quickly
30. __ the finish: 2 wds.
32. Toss away
34. __ Nuclear (Generating station east of Toronto)
35. 1997 Peter Fonda title role
36. Rob Roy's refusals
39. Guy __ and His Royal Canadians
41. Answers: French
44. Q. "What's the 21st letter?" A. "Hmmm... either T ___"
46. "Love ___ you need." - The Beatles
48. Beetle Bailey creator Mr. Walker
50. North Pole's __ Ocean
51. Canadian actress Ms. McCarthy
52. Goes parasailing
53. Not-mowed grass
54. Actress Ms. White
56. __ 7 (Brit pop group)
59. Some brand name jeans
60. Scale with one sharp, __.
61. Box

Friday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Friday's Sudoku

7	2	8	9	6	1	3	4	5
4	3	1	2	8	5	6	7	9
5	9	6	7	4	3	8	1	2
6	8	3	5	1	7	2	9	4
9	4	5	6	2	8	7	3	1
2	1	7	4	3	9	5	8	6
1	5	4	8	7	2	9	6	3
3	7	2	1	9	6	4	5	8
8	6	9	3	5	4	1	2	7

7		5				3		4
	9		8		4		2	
4			9		3			5
		6	4		9	2		
			4	7		2	1	
1			3		8			6
	7		2		6		4	
3		9				8		2

Weather

TODAY

MAX: 11°
MIN: -6°

TUESDAY

MAX: 3°
MIN: -2°

WEDNESDAY

MAX: 9°
MIN: -4°



ANDREW SCHULTZ METEOROLOGIST

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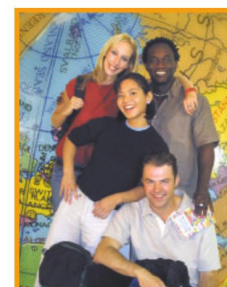
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